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## R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

February 21, 1968

H. Thomas Austern, Esq.  
Covington & Burling  
Union Trust Building  
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Mr. Austern:

We recommend that the computer phase of the information retrieval operation be handled by 3i in Philadelphia, and that the subcontract with Systems Science in Washington be terminated before March 1.

We make this recommendation even though the results of the tests suggested by us were not entirely satisfactory, and contained errors of up to about 2%. Some of the results on these searches have been described in the memo of yesterday by Mr. O'Shea to your Mr. Denniston. Some, but not all, of the discrepancies between the search results run on the Systems Science computer and on the 3i computer have been satisfactorily explained. We feel, however, reasonably certain that the other discrepancies can be eliminated by 3i satisfactorily.

We would like, however, to suggest that the following conditions be incorporated into the contract between your firm and 3i:

- (a) 3i will undertake to eliminate all discrepancies between 3i data base and the Systems Science data base within 90 days or less.
- (b) expert representatives of your firm should be entitled to audit and approve or disapprove, within 30 days, the error-correcting procedures discussed under (a), as well as any other computer operating procedures required by 3i for current operations.
- (c) in the future, expert representatives of your firm should be entitled to audit and approve or disapprove

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H. Thomas Austern, Esq.

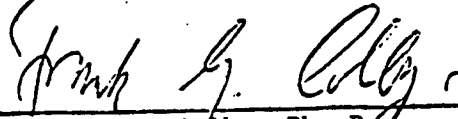
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February 21, 1968

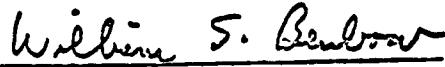
any computer operating procedures newly introduced  
by 31.

Very truly yours,

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY



Frank G. Colby, Ph. D.  
Manager, Science Information



William S. Benbow  
Senior Systems Analyst

FGC/pgg

CC: H. H. Ramm  
Simon O'Shea

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